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May 31, 1996

TOP SECRET / NOFORN/NOCONTRACT/ORCON/EXDIS

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SECTION 3

DEMONSTRATION IN NAZARETH WILL FURTHER STRAIN

RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAELI JEWS AND ARABS.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
( ) RELEASE ( ) DECLASSIFY  
( ) EXCISE ( ) DECLASSIFY IN PART EO Citations  
( ) DENY  
TS authority to  
( ) CLASSIFY as ( ) S or ( ) C Sec.  
( ) DOWNGRADE TS to ( ) S or ( ) C  
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B. PLO LEADERSHIP SURPRISED BY VIOLENCE

INR COMMENT:

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3. PERSIAN GULF

A. MILITARY UPDATE

IRAN HIT A THIRD SHIP IN THE LOWER GULF JANUARY 22,  
ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS,

IRAQI WARPLANES FLEW NUMEROUS MISSIONS OVER THE  
NORTHERN GULF JANUARY 23  
ANNOUNCED THE COMMANDER OF ITS V CORPS---SCENE OF

IRAQ

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RECENT BORDER FIGHTING--WAS KILLED IN A HELICOPTER  
CRASH JANUARY 22 BUT DENIED IRANIAN CLAIMS TO HAVE  
SHOT DOWN THE AIRCRAFT, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS.  
IRAQ ALSO SAID ITS PLANES ATTACKED AN IRANIAN SAM  
SITE ON THE SOUTHERN FRONT--

(SECRET) NOFORN

B. CHINESE ARMS SHIPMENT UPDATE

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(SECRET [ ] /NOFORN)

4. NICARAGUA: SANDINISTA MOBS ATTACK OPPOSITION  
HEADQUARTERS

SANDINISTA AGITATORS (TURBAS) JANUARY 22 THREW ROCKS  
AT OPPOSITION UMBRELLA GROUP (CDN) HEADQUARTERS AS  
CDN LEADERS MET WITH MEMBERS OF THE ANTI-SANDINISTA  
MOTHERS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS MOVEMENT, ACCORDING  
TO EMBASSY MANAGUA AND PRESS REPORTS. LATER AT A  
PRO-SANDINISTA RALLY, COMMANDER ARCE THREATENED TO  
CRUSH THE OPPOSITION.

INR COMMENT: THE TURBA ATTACK, OSTENSIBLY A  
SPONTANEOUS RESPONSE TO THE REMOVAL OF A SANDINISTA  
FLAG FROM CDN HEADQUARTERS, RECENTLY HAD BEEN  
THREATENED TWICE IN THE SANDINISTA PRESS. FEARING  
COMPETITION FROM AN OPPOSITION MARCH ANNOUNCED IN  
THE ANTI-SANDINISTA LA PRENSA' THE SANDINISTAS ACTED  
TO ENSURE THEIR RALLY WOULD BE THE ONLY SHOW IN  
TOWN. DESPITE LIFTING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY, THE  
SANDINISTAS APPEAR DETERMINED TO PREVENT THE  
OPPOSITION FROM GAINING MOMENTUM. (CONFIDENTIAL)

5. ICELAND: PROBLEMS IN BACKGROUND AS PRESIDENT  
VISITS US

ICELAND'S CEREMONIAL PRESIDENT FINNBOGADOTTIR WILL  
MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT JANUARY 26 DURING AN

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82

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UNOFFICIAL VISIT TO THE US, ACCORDING TO EMBASSY  
REYKJAVIK. THE POPULAR PRESIDENT ANNOUNCED SHE WILL  
SEEK REELECTION THIS YEAR TO ANOTHER FOUR-YEAR  
TERM. BY TRADITION, SHE WILL NOT BE OPPOSED.

INR COMMENT: POTENTIALLY SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN  
US-ICELANDIC RELATIONS WILL NOT BE DISCUSSED BUT LIE  
IN THE BACKGROUND. A US-ICELANDIC CONFRONTATION WAS  
AVOIDED IN 1987 WHEN THE US POSTPONED CERTIFYING

THAT ICELAND HAD VIOLATED INTERNATIONAL WHALING  
COMMITTEE (IWC) REGULATIONS BY CONDUCTING  
"SCIENTIFIC" RESEARCH WHALING THAT DID NOT MEET IWC  
SPECIFICATIONS. [

(CONFIDENTIAL)

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